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CAMPING MAGAZINE



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Book Reviews



VOLUME VIII

NUMBER I

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
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The Camping Magazine

Bernard S. Mason, Ph.D., Editor

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Courtesy American

"The ground is covered with snow, son."

"But, mother, God made the snow."

—It is piled in the nook round the cabin high
Till the roof blends white with the winter sky.
There is fire and food. The house is dry.

"And, mother, I want to go."

"There is fog in the valley, and rain, son."

"But, mother, rain makes things grow."

—Up at the crest the storm clouds scud,
Down the canyons races the flood.
They're calling a fellow with red in his blood—

"And, mother, I want to go."

Author and source unknown.

An Experiment in International Living

By

DONALD B. WATT

Director, The Experiment in International Living

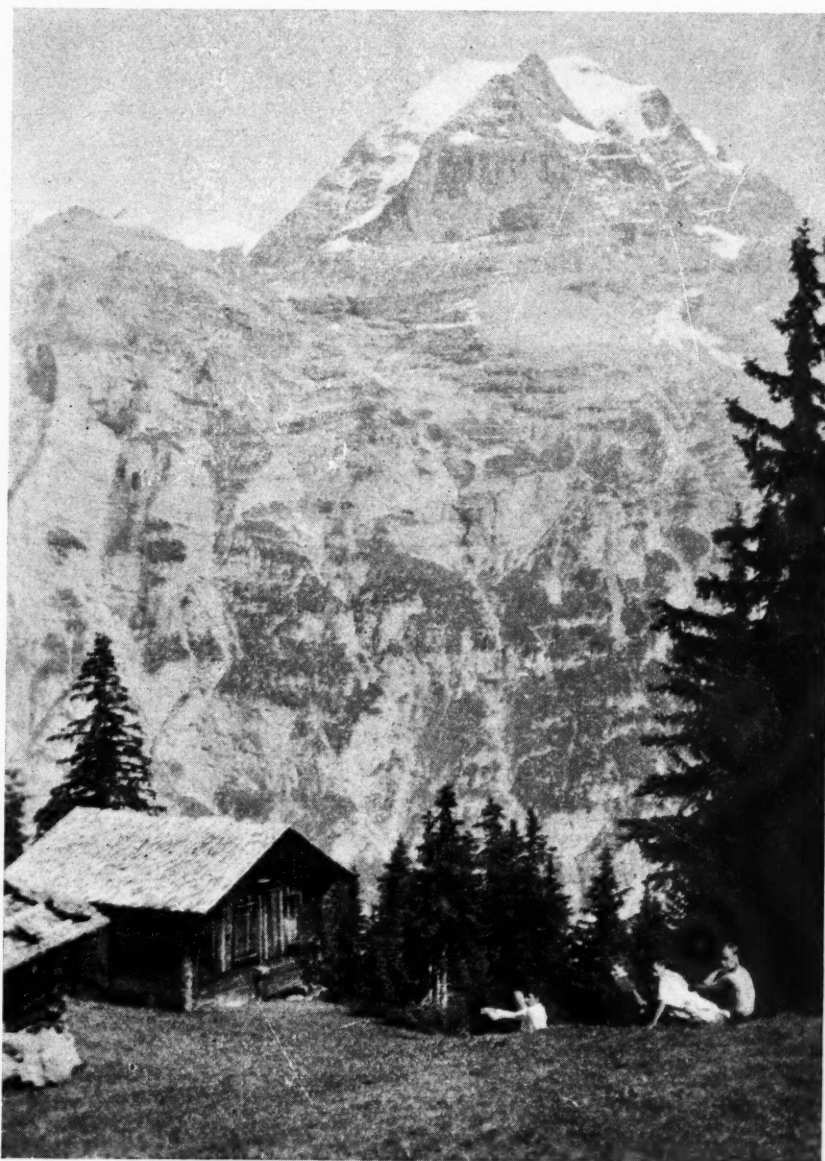
EDITOR'S NOTE.—Mr. Watt has conducted three International Experiments into Europe. This article is introductory to three articles by Mr. Watt's various Experiment Directors dealing respectively with experiences in England, Germany, and France. Mrs. Matteson's article on *Camping in England* is contained in this issue. Those on Germany and France will appear in the February issue.

help us to make friends in Europe?"

This criterion has affected the development of the Experiment in many ways. It has affected the selection of group members and their leaders, the price charged for the summer's experience, and the manner in which these

"WOULDN'T it be fine to have a camp for American boys in Europe?" This day-dream was expressed about ten years before the first Experiment in International Living came into being in 1932. Throughout the year's work that went into the preparation of that first Experiment, European manners and methods influenced its planning and management increasingly, but the Experiment certainly traces its origin to America's unique contribution to education, the summer camp.

From the first, the objective of experimenters was to live as nearly like Europeans as possible, for the sake, not only of getting to know individuals, but to learn by first-hand experience many of the fine features of European cultures which are lacking in our newer American culture. The criterion for deciding upon every detail of planning and management has always been: "Will it





funds were expended. In order that those who went should be immersed to the greatest possible extent in things European and still remain under the direction of American leaders in whom American parents would have confidence, small groups were planned. It is true that the original limitation of fifteen for the First Experiment was exceeded by a good many because of the inability of the management to select the best material out of rather numerous applications. Since that time, however, there has always been a tendency toward smaller groups, so that for the future, groups of between seven and twelve are to be the normal size. This smaller size allows a maximum amount of contact with European life without sacrificing the very real fun that the Americans have among themselves during the ten weeks when they are living in such close contact.

Whether justly or not, Americans abroad have gained a none-too-enviable reputation. While any stranger traveling in a foreign land is likely to become conspicuous, Americans in particular have been singled out for their ability to make an unpleasant impression. Feeling, therefore, that it would be very much better for our young people to have no contact at all with foreign countries than to have contact which would be unpleasant to the visitors and the visited, the Experiment has been looked upon as a real problem in living which demands all of the intelligence, grace, and emotional control that every Experimenter possesses. The Experiment has been increas-

ingly successful in leaving happiness in the minds of both Americans and Europeans when the summer is over and, in one sense, is no longer an experiment. To each new member, going to Europe for the first time, the undertaking will always remain an experiment. It is an experiment into which one must put one's best effort and can never be sure until it is over how satisfactory the results will be.

Since the inception of the Experiment great emphasis has been placed on the selection of group members. The qualifications for those who should go as group members have been studied and changed from year to year, as well as the best procedure for securing people of such qualifications. As these qualifications now stand, the applicant must:

- a. Have a real desire to make friends abroad;
- b. Be distinctly above the average in scholastic work;
- c. Have shown definite indications of initiative and leadership;
- d. Have a good background of the language in question;
- e. Be free from physical defects as shown by a physical examination;
- f. Be not less than fifteen years old.

While the selection of members received careful study, the management recognized that of still greater importance for the success or failure of the summer was the selection of the group leaders. Hundreds of individuals who would be well qualified for summer camp work in America would be disqualified as leaders for

(Continued on Page 25)

Camping in England=

An Experiment in International Living

By

HELEN MATTESON

EDITOR'S NOTE.—In the preceding article in this issue, *An Experiment in International Living*, Mr. Donald B. Watt, Director of the Experiment, presents the plan and objectives of his camping tours through European countries. In the following article, Mrs. Matteson tells the story of one of the Experiments in England. In the February issue, similar stories on Experiments in Germany and France will be presented.

IN looking back over our idyllic summer, either to delight the "inner eye" or to answer the question, "And did you have a good time in England?" I have found myself wondering why we seem so sure that our summer was different from that of any other visitor, why so especially, so uniquely satisfactory. Now, as a camper of sorts, having seen camp girls enjoying season after season in New England, I realize that many of the reasons for the happiness of our Experimenters are essentially the same as those which make good camps seem like Paradise to many a boy and girl. Indeed in the phrase of one of our amusing members, ours was "a heaven summer," combining the joys of travel with the joys of camping.

There we were, a group of fourteen: seven girls, six boys, and I—the young people ranging in age from thirteen years old to nineteen, but concentrated around sixteen. All the fun, the intimacy, the even give-and-take that come from life with contemporaries was theirs morning, noon, and night, as it is a camper's, and friendships were developing as they shared priceless experiences—seeing our first cathedral at Salisbury, swimming at sunset in the Irish Sea, sleeping in a Devonshire hayloft, struggling hilariously with shillings, pence, and florins, "picking up" a Cornish sailor at Port Isaac and listening to his tales, playing soccer with Welsh boys and girls in the long twilight, and getting lost in Lorna Doone's Valley and bemired in one in Hardy's "Wessex." Then there was the evening when we sang negro spirituals around a parlor organ played by our little host

in a Dorset tea-shop, and the Sunday when we went to divine services at Westminster Abbey in the morning and to some of a very human sort at a corner of Hyde Park in the afternoon. All these were happening not with grown-ups, but with one's own giggling, groping, provocative, comfortable pals.

Another advantage of ours that some camps have, though not many, was the combination of boys and girls. Even the boys would admit that it worked. No one who has had experience with small groups in coeducation needs be told that it did, that although the combination does increase the amount of fooling and make serious talk a little less easy to come by, it widens so greatly the scope of interests and makes the summer in indefinable ways so much richer that there was no question as to its value. Romance, with its complications? How much chance is there for that when healthy, intelligent young people have to see each other day in, day out, tired, dirty, sleepy, independent, silly, opinionated, and *hungry*! As for the youth seen once, glamorously, across a hostel table or the girl who got off the train at St. German, those are the ones who strike the spark. Communal doing of laundry in the cottage garden at Tintasel or pushing "bikes" up the hot tarry road to make the train at Marlboro, rather unattractively streaked with perspiration, these experiences seem to make young people less romantic and more companionably understanding.

Probably the most obvious of the satisfactions common to campers and Experimenters are those due to being out-of-door creatures, active, healthy, and adventurous. How we loved our bicycles! "If no one had been around," records one diary on the day we sold them in Dorchester and took to the train, "I'd have kissed my bike boodbye." To these lovely shiny English bikes we owed that paradoxical bless-

ing of fatigue and vitality which comes from hard exercise day after day in sun or in rain, that quickening of sensitivity to beauty which is the reward for having earned the hill top or the sea cliff or the city gate by the sweat of the brow. Our feeling for ordinary American tourists who rolled in automobiles was the snobbishness of the self-satisfied, hardy young. Haven't many of us felt it on Mt. Washington toward the "softies" who have arrived at *our* summit by the power of gas or steam? Certainly we felt that we were the favored ones.

To our bicycles we owed other important blessings that come with living out-of-doors, besides such obvious ones as the five-mile coast down from the pass in central Wales, where the Wye and the Severn rise, the effortless gliding over Brendon Common high on Exmoor, and the breath-taking swoop, long after dark, down into that gem of wool towns, Chipping Camden, asleep in her valley. There was the vagabond aspect of our summer to thank them for: our shorts (none for the leader), our polo shirts, our comfortable mussiness which made us almost unrecognizable to shopkeepers, farmers, and fellow-cyclists as "Americans"; our cheerful opportunism too, and our sense of freemasonry; in general our simple life. When we peddled up to a railway hotel at Aberystwyth, it was both honest and acceptable to bargain for one at "one-and-six"; and after our ride in the Cornish rain no wonder those buxom sisters of Tintasel village scurried around to find beds-and-breakfasts at neighbors "for no more'n four-an'-six, bless 'em!" We ate lunches out of cans outside tiny shops, we picnicked by roadside ledges with a pailful of fresh milk for a shilling, we helped Mrs. Johns set our supper in her Devon farm house, "washing up" afterwards in the great old kitchen and then made up our own featherbeds; and by the end of the summer we were such confident hobos that out of accommodations for five in Maidstone we could evolve beds for thirteen—what with chairs, settees, and the floor! To some of us this extemporizing and this economy were wholly new; to all of us it showed what fun simple, even primitive living can be. None of us again should think, "Oh, I can't afford to travel"; now it will be, "I'll save money for another trip. It doesn't cost much."

Of course our bicycles meant *Open Sesame*

to one organized form of simple living, and this deserves paragraphs of description: The youth hostel. These, more numerous in England every year, are an unqualified boon to walker and cyclist. What our few and cherished mountain huts have long been to our climbers here, these are to a much wider range of young people—but of course hostels exist now in New England too, as well as in New Zealand! The English ones, at any rate, were our particular boon, from the first night out from Southampton, spent in Godshill (propitious name!) to the last night of our gypsying, in Canterbury. These hostels, nineteen all together, ranged from exquisite to crude, from immaculate to cluttery, from crowded to empty, large to small, "regimented" (as my young free-lances protested) to casual, but from delightful *never* to unpleasant! Only once was a warden really "crabby," and her snappishness made her a legend at once. In fact as we remember the garden of her stucco villa, thick with careless bloom, heavy with fruit, I am not sure she wasn't an ogress in some dire enchantment. Certainly among the wardens there were some fairy god-fathers and god-mothers. Thinly disguised.

Apart moreover from the practical merits of the hostels, which must be mentioned (bed and breakfast? 66c. Supper? possibly 37c), there is in the hostel what the Experiment came to England for—the chance for friendliness with young people of another country. And a chance it is, to be either taken or ignored. On the whole we took it, trying to make the most of table talk over the cold ham and bread and butter and tea, hoping that more would come later in the Common room. There conversation was more apt to bloom, for the English we met seemed rather serious about the business of eating; and there we often, starting from mileage, routes, and maps, would range on and on in talk until "lights out" sorted us into men's and into women's dormitories, where we sometimes would go on still later, whispering internationally from bunk to bunk. Although in our short meetings, we seldom could delve very deeply, we did have interesting talk with a wide variety of Britishers. Of course they were as different, each from each, as are all other specimens of the human race, but they were alike in several respects: they could drink endless

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Camp == The Home of Today Plus

By

EMILY H. WELCH

Director, Camp Wabunaki

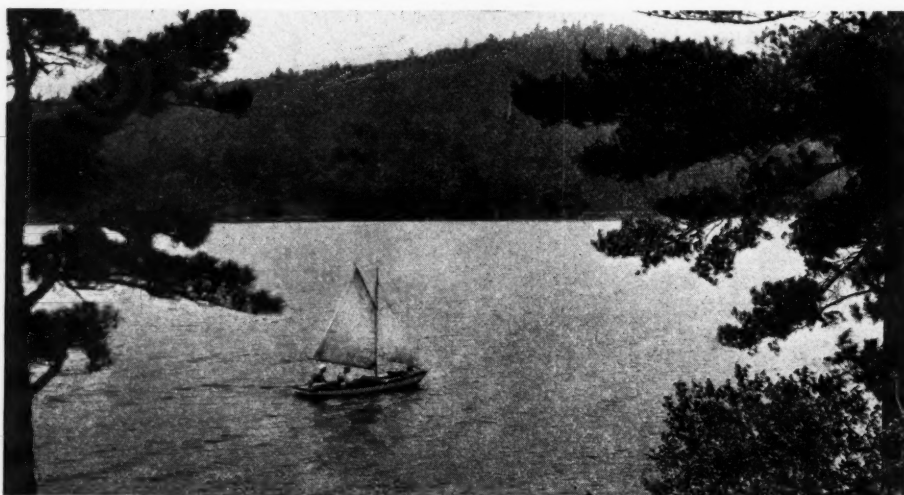
IN THE October number of the *Camping Magazine* Miss Elizabeth Embler in her article "To Preserve an American Inheritance" directed our attention to the sharp and vivid contrast between life in the "homestead or spacious city house where a real family, frequently of two or three generations, lived as an individual unit" and "the more or less cellular existence that the apartment house offers." She made the significant statement that "at least the essence and spirit of the home and the old time pattern of living should be given to a child as part of the preparation of fine living" and then she proceeded to show how the American camp takes "the place left vacant by the abbreviating of the American home." This article presents a picture that should challenge every homemaker.

But the good camp can and does go further than this, for inherent in its make-up are possibilities which few homes, however fine they may be, can provide and it may be of interest to consider some of these to supplement the picture so ably presented by Miss Embler.

First and of prime importance is the fact that the grown-ups in the camp group are trained leaders. Almost any one can be a parent. A few of the more enlightened ministers have the courage to refuse to marry the physically unfit but there is no check of any kind to determine intellectual and emotional fitness to be entrusted with a helpless and trusting child during his period of growing up. Until there are such requirements it is probably not an exaggeration to say that it is a rare and refreshing experience to meet a young man or woman who approaches marriage and parenthood with a sense of obligation to become fit to be a mother or father and is seeking ways and means of preparation. Cooking and learning about labor-saving gadgets too often occupy the time of the engaged girl and the emphasis rests upon becoming a good housekeeper rather than a good home-maker.

On the other hand to become a good camp leader requires much in the way of training and experience. He or she must have developed





a high degree of physical fitness. The job is a twenty-four hour one, as is the parent's, and the physical verve of well-being is necessary to carry it through with poise. Camp is no place for nervous or mental fatigue. He must feel that "to grow in the open air and to eat and sleep with the earth" is the "call of the wild" to him. He must know many things and want to know many more things to satisfy the eager questioners at the table, hiking along the trail, and around the camp fire. But most of all he must have emotional stability and the kind of sympathy and understanding that enables him "to see things whole and to see them clear" for he must warrant the respect of the campers. Not all leaders have all these of course but the man or woman who is not striving for these goals under the constant check of the director's appraisal doesn't last long in a good camp.

Furthermore the leader can have a sense of perspective and detachment, which, in a small family, parents often find difficulties in getting. Evidence of this is the constant worry expressed by them that transient attitudes of naughtiness in their children are final. This is quite natural, however. They aren't

"raising" dozens of children, as the leaders are year after year, and who in the process have learned to wait with patience and with equanimity. The latter know that every adolescent boy or girl goes through a period of emotional readjustment when explosive and unreasonable actions seem to be the order of the day. But experience

has taught them that "this too will pass" and the campers sense this confidence of theirs. Too frequently one hears a boy or girl say to a leader, "At home they say I'm getting worse all the time. You don't think so, do you?"

So the camp offers trained leaders who can study the boy or girl from a point of view that is very different from that of the parent and whose reports at the end of the camp season can be of real help and are often a surprise in revealing the fact that Johnny is really quite a person among his own kind! And it is comforting to note that a long camp leadership experience is more than apt to mean an increasing confidence in the inherent fineness and stability of American youth.

Then too it is the very unusual home environment that can offer a child a goodly number of companions of the same age and ability. Says one boy, "Camp's fun because there are a



lot of guys to play tennis with and some I can beat and some beat me." Says a girl, "Lots of girls liked canoeing, my favorite sport, and sometimes I paddled stern and sometimes I paddled bow." The age old cry of the child at home—"nothing to do" and "nobody to do it with"—is seldom heard at camp. There's an infinite variety of things to do and always somebody to do it with. The campers are eager to learn how to do things well and to get a lot of practice, for who does not aspire to be a second Babe Ruth or a Helen Wills Moody? The problem for the leader becomes therefore, a matter of guidance in wise choice and in the proper balance between vigorous activity at times and at other times, like the farmer in winter, "settin' and thinkin' and maybe jest settin' " which too few people know how to do.

Other factors can only be suggested or touched upon briefly. Camp is usually and should always be a place where the natural beauty of the woods and the hills and sand dunes offers much that is unknown and stimulates the spirit of adventure. How few city or suburban habitats can do this! And there is, what few homes can afford, the daily medical watchfulness of the nurse and often the doctor with the resultant discovery of unsuspected difficulties. A camper was once reported as having "fainted" once or twice at school. At camp he "fainted" in the presence of the doctor who diagnosed the attack as much more serious than fainting. By prompt medical attention at home a cure was effected which was possible only because of the early diagnosis of the camp physician. Furthermore, there should be, under the proper leadership, the stimulus toward increasing spiritual discernment which results when a group of many kinds of people with many different interests and aspirations is engaged in the adventure of living finely together.

But perhaps the greatest benefit of all is the most difficult to appreciate and evaluate. To live apart from the home group for a time, to learn new skills which may be proudly demonstrated to parents and brothers and sisters, to experience the satisfaction of successfully making a place with one's own kind, —this is the rightful chance of every growing boy and girl and need not lead, as many parents seem to fear that it will, to a revolt against



home duties and parental direction. There will be a new confidence perhaps but, if the home means the right kind of security, no experience away from it can provide an adequate substitute and no camp staff wants to become that substitute. They recognize rather that for a camp experience to be of the greatest value to a boy or girl it must complement the life at home and stimulate his or her desire to go back to it better equipped and eager to enrich it.

And when a normal, active, successful camper, who is exuberant in his expressions of loyalty to his camp, goes home to where he belongs, the wise camp leader rejoices as much as the mother when she hears him say—"O boy! I'm glad to be home."

A Vacation in Camp

by

ROSALIND CASSIDY

Chairman, Department of Physical Education,
Mills College, California

EDITOR'S NOTE.—This article is a radio talk delivered by Miss Cassidy at the studios of the National Broadcasting Company in San Francisco.

THERE is a great deal of talk these days about leisure time, unemployed time, vacation time; and there is much discussion, planning and research under way in the study of the needs of the child and the adult to see how this time, not now used in school or work activity, may be used in ways that will bring more happiness and health to the individual.

As we consider the topic of a vacation in camp, let us ask the question, what *should* a vacation supply in our lives? And then let us see what the summer camp has to offer toward that demand.

What do you and I as adults want and need in a vacation?

What does the boy or girl want and need in a vacation?

What is there in the organization of human life that demands a vacation or *recreation* time for the well being of the individual?

What does this *threat* or *promise*, depending on your point of view, of the modern era of more vacation time than man has ever before known, mean in vacation planning?

Here are four questions—Now very briefly to answer them.

FIRST, You and I as adults in our vacation time want a rest, a relief from our cares and worries. We want “to be happy,” to take our minds off our work or lack of it, and to think about and do new things. Perhaps, depending upon our make-up, to see new people. We want to feel well, rested, refreshed, happier when we return.

SECOND, The boy and girl, to express it simply in their language, want to have a good time, to have new adventures in new and different places, to be with those of their own age.

Now the *THIRD* question, What is there in our biological make-up that demands a *recre-*

ation time? To answer this question adequately would require a lengthy discussion.

However, we do know from scientific study of the human being, that mental, physical and emotional activity are fundamental to normal growth. We know that many instinctive drives are expressed in play activities and are essential for the normal physical and emotional growth of the child and the adult. The mental hygienists tell us that to be happy, to be one of a group, to feel some measure of success is necessary for normal living of both child and grown-up.

And the *FOURTH* question, if we are to have increasingly more leisure, we must learn to use it wisely and with satisfaction. Children must have much more emphasis in their education on the development of attitudes toward recreational, leisure-time activities and they must be given a wide variety of skills that they can use with success in these activities, whether it is in playing in an orchestra, designing and dyeing materials, wood carving, sewing, outdoor cooking, or writing and acting a play. Our whole puritanical and pioneer philosophy that called play a “fooling away of time” and held it as an evil and wrong doing, must give way to a new conception which develops many rewarding ways in which we actually can “fool away” this time which is no longer needed in stern work activities.

At last I have arrived at a vacation in camp.

Will you visualize with me the camp scene, whether it be your own little camp by some remote stream where the fishing is good, or a large municipal camp equipped to give a vacation to the people of a great city, a summer camp for Boy Scouts, picturesque with totem poles and Indian tipis, or the more elaborately equipped private camp for boys or girls. This camp is set in some beautiful spot remote from city life, the living quarters are tents or cabins

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Uncle Sam's New Camping Grounds

By

FANNING HEARON
State Park Division
National Park Service

AN important result of the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps under the direction of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, will be an encouraging increase in the nation's camping facilities, which, without the money and man-power of the New Deal's Emergency Conservation Work program, probably could not have been attained in half a century.

Most of these facilities are being provided in the state, county and metropolitan parks, and organized recreation areas for the underprivileged of the cities. They are being developed under Park Service supervision in cooperation with Robert Fechner, director of Emergency Conservation Work, Dr. Rexford Tugwell's Resettlement Administration and the various state and local park, recreation and conservation authorities. Camping facilities in the state parks and organized recreation areas are usually more extensive than those in the county and metropolitan parks for the obvious reason that they are on larger areas and in locations more appealing to the sort of person who "goes camping."

In March 1935, when the Conservation Corps rounded out the first two of what may well become its permanent years, work-accomplished figures revealed that 74,631 acres had been added to the country's state and local park camp grounds in 24 months. In the half-year since that time this increase figure has gone well over 100,000 acres. Besides this the Corps has produced about 20,000 acres of formal picnic areas.

The parks in which these public camp grounds and picnic plots are located are served with modern conveniences and outdoor recreational facilities of good variety, the majority of which have been constructed by the CCC in the last two-and-one-half years. In his report to President Roosevelt of the Corps' first two years work, Director Fechner stated that the average of 240 companies on state and local park projects in an average of 34.8

states opened up 1,120 miles of fire breaks; reduced the fire hazard of 62,246 acres; cleaned up 42,118 acres in other than fire protection; improved the

timber stand on 43,211 acres; and collected 47,544 pounds of hardwood seeds and 1,004 bushels of conifers.

They constructed:

574 miles of telephone lines; 3,502 miles of foot, horse, and vehicle trails; 1,445 foot, horse, and vehicle bridges; 813 public camp ground buildings; 713 camp ground and picnic area latrines; 3,390 other park structures; 1,582 camp ground water systems containing 241,632 feet of pipe; 237 waste disposal systems containing 218,512 feet of pipe; 395 miles of fences; 871 recreation dams; 44 lookout houses; 51 lookout towers; and 388,891 feet of guard rails.

Insect pest control was practiced over 115,816 acres; rodent control over 15,890 acres; tree and plant disease control over 59,963 acres.

River banks were cleared over 18,185,509 square yards; dam sites over 297,891 square yards, and channels over 174,619 square yards.

Every one of these projects is directly or indirectly pointed at the improvement of the nation's places to "go camping" through the betterment of its general outdoor recreational facilities. Telephone lines will provide means of immediate communication with the outside world; trails and bridges make the park accessible to hikers and riders; shelters, cabins, lodges, and the water and waste disposal systems serve their obvious purposes and the dams make recreation lakes for swimming, boating and controlled fishing. Under the head of "other structures" come bath houses, boat houses, concession buildings, and picnic shelters with fireplaces and tables large enough to accommodate a troop of Boy Scouts.

The conservation projects—firebreaks, reforestation, erosion, plant disease control and the others—attain their importance in the protection and improvement of the physical area itself. Most state parks contain that highly valuable natural resource, scenic beauty, and

the conservation efforts will preserve it. Also essential to the preservation of this natural beauty is the arrangement of the park's development so the majority of the acreage is left untouched except for an occasional hidden trail. The service areas, with their cabins and shelters and fireplaces, are placed so they may be used by thousands without harming the conservation tract.

A CCC-constructed park camp ground is usually near the service center, with its concession building, lodge, bath house or cabin group, and connected with it by a park road which will comfortably accommodate an automobile. The area will be divided into units, each of which will have a parking spur, a fireplace and a space cleared and smoothed for the camper's tent. Convenient to all units in the ground will be comfort stations for men and women and water available through spigots or drinking fountains ingeniously hidden in stumps or rocks to prevent the intrusion of kitchen enamel into the natural state of things. The ideal camp ground will have its units screened from each other by trees and shrubs. Such is the hope of the Park Service in the state parks.

Persons not wanting to "camp out" will find cabins available at nominal fees, and those seeking only a day's outing and not overnight accommodations, may turn to the picnic areas. The cabins are modern and comfortable in all seasons and the picnic areas offer the usual fireplaces, table and bench combinations, water and sanitary conveniences. The trails, lakes, recreation lodges and concession buildings are, of course, open to all. Fees for entrance to the park, parking privileges, swimming, boating, fishing, overnight accommodations and the rental of equipment will be decided upon by the state, county or metropolitan authority in charge of the park's administration and maintenance, and collected by its representatives on location.

When one of these parks reaches a satisfactory development point the Park Service removes its CCC company and leaves the area under jurisdiction of the park authority with which it has been cooperating on the project. The authority then conducts the finished product according to its best knowledge and experience. A bill coming before the 1936

Congress, if passed, will make it possible for the Park Service to continue indefinitely its cooperation with the states in the survey, acquisition, development and maintenance of parks, parkways and recreational areas.

Parks in which these facilities will be available are under development in 46 states—all except Kansas and Delaware. In October 1936, 457 CCC camps were assigned to these projects, but as the Park Service adjusts itself to the 500,000 Corps enrollment, instead of the originally-planned 600,000, this number will gradually become 406. The number of states will remain unchanged. An extraordinary feature of the conservation work program has been the turning of the force of the CCC into the state and local parks. When the movement began in April 1933, there were only 105 companies on projects in 26 states. In the second six-months work period, it jumped to 239 and climbed steadily until it attained October's 457.

Enough has been accomplished in two-and-one-half years to make it possible for an individual or group to find publicly-owned camp grounds and other outdoor recreational facilities in every section of the country. New England, New York, the Northwoods of Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota; Indiana, Illinois and Missouri in the Midwest; Washington and Oregon in the Northwest and California on the West Coast have had a limited number of such spots for several years, but this CCC business has given them tremendous impetus and advanced their collective conservation and recreation efforts a generation. The South, Southwest and that strip of states just east of the Rockies and short of the real Midwest, which have never known much about parks and planned outdoor recreation, suddenly awakened to what the Federal government was offering and grabbed the opportunity by the back of the neck.

States with parks acquired additions and those without acquired new parks, until, in two years, the nation's state and local park acreage increased about 650,000 acres to 3,650,000, an area larger than Connecticut. Other direct results of Director Fechner's Emergency Conservation Work program are the passage of legislation to set up state, county and local park authorities to administer and maintain what the

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The History of Organized Camping

The Early Days

By

H. W. GIBSON

Past President, American
Camping Association

EDITOR'S NOTE.—This is the first of a series of articles by Mr. Gibson on the history of organized camping in America. Each issue of the magazine will contain a chapter of this history until it is completed.

FOREWORD

TO assemble the scattered information concerning the genesis of the organized camp movement and present it in one volume is the purpose of this thesis. The accomplishment of this has required considerable research in order that the information secured may be accurate. Much credit is due Eugene H. Lehman and Porter Sargent for their faithful recording of important events in the early history of the movement. Their patient persistence in following leads, resulted in uncovering information which otherwise would have been lost. To David S. Keiser is given the credit of securing the story of Dr. Rothrock and his unique camp. Acknowledgment is also given to those who have furnished historical items and verified many incidents and happenings of the early camping days. This is a history rather than an analysis or interpretation of the movement and it is compiled with the hope that it will be of assistance to students and others seeking information about the organized camping movement.

CHAPTER 1

THE EARLY DAYS

Biography is the only true history. Great movements in history have always revolved around some outstanding figure. History is best understood through biography. People are the makers of history.—GAMALIEL BRADFORD.

The history of the organized camping movement is largely the history of persons, men and women, possessing the pioneer spirit and the vision of bringing back into our highly civilized and in many respects, artificial method of living, those values of life which come from liv-

ing in the great out of doors. Since the time of Moses people have camped out along the banks of streams, by the shore of lakes and in the mountains, but camping as an organized, co-operative way of living, is a comparatively recent movement and is distinctly American in its origin.

"Our race began its career in the open," writes George W. Hinckley, in one of his delightful little books. "After a time it began to build houses. The houses were made closer and closer, tighter and tighter, until air was shut out. If a man were feeble, it was understood that the most dangerous thing he could do was to breathe air out-of-doors after sunset until the sun was well into the heavens again; night air was believed to be deadly though it was all that was available. The race was dying; dying of its own stupidity; dying from in-dooriness.

"Then there arose apostles of fresh air; they preached the doctrine of out-dooriness; the race was getting its breath again, and coming into its own."¹

A rather unique analysis of this in-dooriness tendency is expressed in the following quaint quatrain:

"When ye houses were made of straw
Ye men were made of oak
But when ye houses were made of oak
Ye men were made of straw."

Previous to the birth of the organized camping movement, a group of "men of oak," because of their understanding of the out of doors and wealth of outdoor experience, and through the contagious enthusiasm of their writings, inspired and stimulated a new interest in the joy of out-dooriness. Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, Kit Carson, Thoreau, Isaac Walton, "Adirondak" Murray, "Nesmuck" Sears, W. Hamilton Gibson, Col. Buzzacott, and later, Daniel

¹ G. W. Hinckley, *Roughing it With Boys*, p. 1.

Beard, Ernest Thompson Seton, Edward Breck, Horace Kephart, and a host of others, represent the real, woodsy type of outdoor life—a noble roster of rugged personalities, whose discipleship to “nature in the raw,” wins our admiration and as we read their books, there wells up within us a feeling of regret that so much of the real love for the out-of-doors which they had, is being supplanted in our modern camps by the conventions of modern life, thus exposing our boys and girls to a camping experience somewhat formal and complex. It is said that history repeats itself, and it may be that the spirit, if not the practice, of the pioneers, may again return and save our present-day camps from the danger of ultra-efficiency and super-scientific management.

LAYING FOUNDATIONS IN 1861

History is being made more rapidly than it is being accurately recorded. Although the organized camping idea is only a half century old, considerable difficulty has been experienced in securing data concerning its origin. It was Eugene H. Lehman, who, in his search for material and data for an article on “Camping Out,” for the Encyclopedia Britannica, discovered that camping, as an organized, educational project, was undertaken as early as 1861 by Frederick Williams Gunn, the founder of the Gunnery School for Boys in Washington, Connecticut. Mr. Lehman writes in *Spalding's Camps and Camping* for 1929,² as follows:

“On May 26, 1928, I wrote a letter to Mr. Hamilton Gibson, the present headmaster of the Gunnery School, requesting information relative to Gunnery Camp. He replied as follows under date of June 23, 1928;

“My dear Mr. Lehmann:

“I am responding to your letter of May 26th and giving you as best I may the information regarding Gunnery Camp requested in that letter.

“As very few of those who remembered the camp are now living, I referred the matter to Mrs. John C. Brinsmade, daughter of Mr. Gunn, and I inclose with this note her statement. I know that Mrs. Brinsmade has consulted and verified all dates and facts as reported by her. Insofar as I know, this is the most complete and reliable statement of the Gunnery Camp that can possibly be procured. I

trust that it may be of interest to you and may be also what you wish in the way of information.

“Very sincerely yours,

“Hamilton Gibson.”

Here is the statement referred to and signed by Mary Gunn Brinsmade (Mrs. John C. Brinsmade):

✓ The Gunnery Camp—The First School Camp

“The Gunnery, a home school for boys, was founded in the fall of 1849 by Frederick William Gunn and his wife, Abigail Brinsmade, in Washington, Connecticut. They began with ten boys, the number gradually increasing to seventy boarders, with a large number of day pupils.

“The school year was divided in two parts—the summer term from the middle of May to the end of September, and the winter term from the middle of November to the end of March.

“When the Civil War began, the boys were eager to be soldiers, to march, and especially to sleep out in tents. They were given opportunity to roll up in blankets and sleep outdoors on the ground, and sometimes the whole school would camp for a night or two in this way at a lovely lake near by. In the summer of 1861, Mr. and Mrs. Gunn took the whole school on a hike, or gypsy trip, as it was called, about four miles to Milford, on the Sound, near New Haven. This trip took two days. The tents, baggage, supplies, etc., were carried in a large market wagon. There were also a few comfortable carriages and two donkeys, but many walked much, and some of the boys all of the way. Camp was established on the beach at Welch's Point and named Camp Comfort. Here two happy weeks were spent boating, sailing, fishing and tramping. This proved such a helpful and delightful experience that Mr. Gunn repeated it in the years of 1863 and 1865. Old boys came back to join the merry troop, and with friends of the school, some of them ladies, made up a party of sixty or more in the following trips.

“At a later period this seaside jaunt gave place to a Gunnery Camp at Point Beautiful on Lake Waramaug, seven miles from the school, and for twelve years the school two weeks in August, camping in this picturesque and delightful spot. The Gunnery was one of the latest schools to adopt the long summer vacation and this change eliminated the summer camp.

“In your letter of May 26, you mention Camp Choçorua, founded in 1881 by Mr. Ernest Balch, as the *first* camp.

“Frederick William Gunn carried on a series of successful camps for boys from the summer of 1861 to that of 1879. The number of campers increased from sixty the first year to one hundred or more in

² E. H. Lehman, *Camps and Camping*. 1929. p. 38.

the last years. This camping was part of the school regime, and not an organized camp for the purpose of money-making. And the Gunnery School encamped fifteen times in the twenty years before the date of 1881 as the founding of Camp Chocorua.

"This camping is so far back in the past that only a very few persons are left to whom I could refer you. You may find in 'The Master of Gunnery,' published in 1887, and to be found in some public libraries, a brief confirmation of these statements; also Dr. J. G. Holland in his story of 'Arthur Bonnicastle'³ gives a very good picture of Gunner Camp. His son and his grandson are alumni of the school. I was fortunate enough to be a member of every one of these camps. My father was Frederick William Gunn. He died in 1881 and John C. Brinsmade, my husband, succeeded him as Headmaster and was there forty years until he retired in 1922 when the present Headmaster, Hamilton Gibson, became Head of the school.

"It may also interest you to know that base ball was introduced into the Gunnery School in 1860. The game was brought to the school by three brothers, sons of Judge William H. Van Cott of New York City, the first President of the Mutual Baseball Association of that city. For years the boys played the game three afternoons a week and on Saturday, and in the long summers the nines through this constant practice grew very proficient.

"Sincerely yours,

"Mary Gunn Brinsmade (Mrs. John C.)"

The above statement clearly ascribes the honor of being "Father of The Organized Camp" to Frederick William Gunn, who in 1861, seventy-four years ago, established Camp Gunnery.

THE DR. ROTHROCK CAMP—1876—THE FIRST PRIVATE CAMP

The published statement of Mr. Lehmann regarding Camp Gunnery, stimulated others in doing research work, among whom was David S. Keiser. He discovered the "North Mountain School of Physical Culture," conducted in 1876 by Joseph Trimble Rothrock, a practicing physician of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.⁴ Mr. Keiser quotes from a biological sketch which Dr. Rothrock wrote for "Some American Medical Botanists," edited by Dr. Howard A. Kelly, the eminent gynecologist, and who is still actively engaged in his profession as a member of the staff of Johns Hopkins Medical School, Bal-

timore, Maryland. This book was published by the Southwark Company, Troy, N. Y. Dr. Rothrock states:

"In 1876 I had the happy idea of taking weakly boys in summer out into camp life in the woods and under competent instruction, mingling exercises and study, so that pursuit of health could be combined with acquisition of practical knowledge outside the usual academic lines. I founded the school on North Mountain, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, and designated it a School of Physical Culture. There had been, I think, but a single attempt to do this work at an earlier period. * * * The multitude of such camps now (about 1913) shows that the seed fell into good ground."

The camp was located on property adjacent to a hotel, the North Mountain House, located about thirty-three miles northeast of Wilkes-Barre, and was 200 yards from Lake Ganago. The campers were twelve years of age or older and came mostly from Philadelphia and Wilkes-Barre. The camp opened on June 15 and closed on October 15th. The tuition was probably \$200.00 for the four months. There were twenty campers and five "teachers" at this first camp.

Dr. Rothrock believed in advertising, at least he was not averse to others broadcasting the story of his cultural enterprise, for, on July 18, 1876, there appeared in the Wilkes-Barre Times, an editorial on the inauguration of the camp, also a long letter from a correspondent was given prominence.

The 1876 enterprise not having paid expenses, Dr. Rothrock decided to spend the next year in Alaskan exploration. Mr. Lewis H. Taylor, then a teacher in the Wilkes-Barre High School and who later became a distinguished physician, carried on the camp in a small way in 1877 with a few boys and several teachers. In 1878 a Mr. Kelly, (who today is the famous physician on the staff of Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore, Maryland), joined Mr. Taylor and conducted the camp. They advertised in the Philadelphia Bulletin and in the Wilkes-Barre Times and had a camp of about twenty boys. At the end of the season the camp was closed. "The bills and counselors were paid—and as to profit, there wasn't any."

Dr. Rothrock was greatly interested in forestry and in the Capitol building at Harrisburg,

(Continued on Page 26)

³ See J. G. Holland, *Arthur Bonnicastle*, pp. 288-292.

⁴ Davis S. Keiser, *Camper and Hiker*, April 1929, page 4.

Views Afoot

By

Henry S. Curtis, Ph.D.

SOME of the best books of travel that have ever been written have been views afoot.

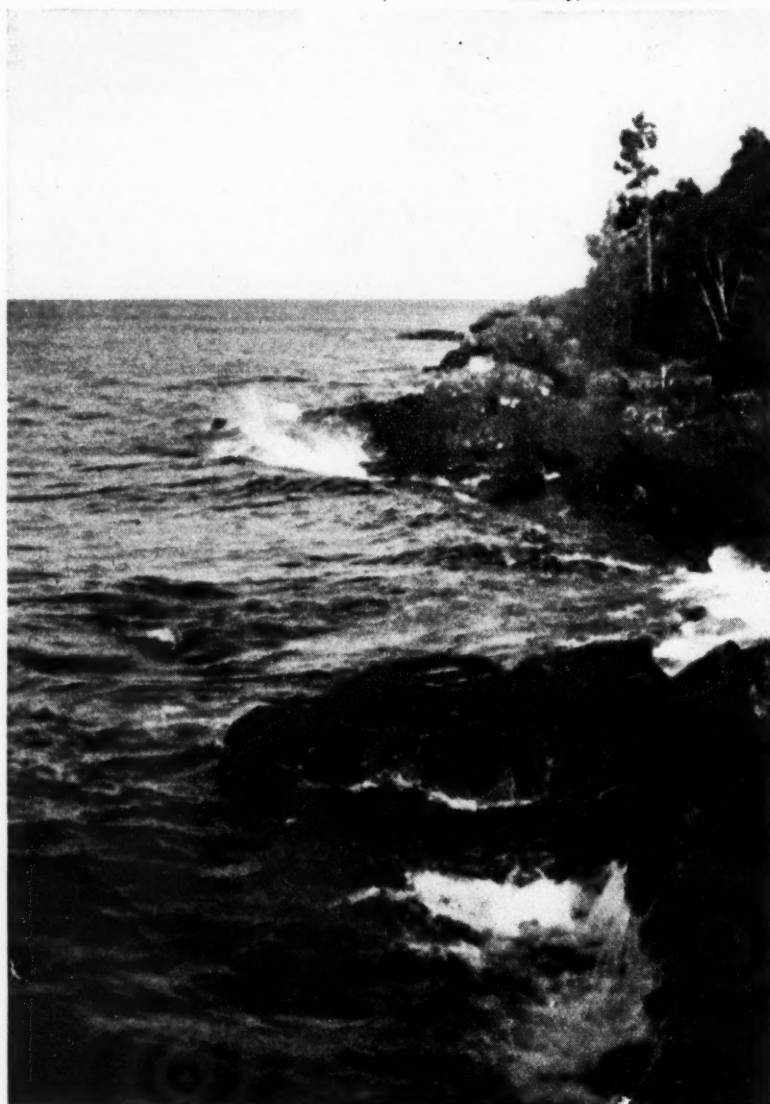
There is an opportunity for intimate observation and social contacts such as come in no other way. The European walking tour offers about the most delightful group vacation that vigorous young people can take.

Walking is the original and still the only universal form of going somewhere. Little children run more than they walk, but with

advancing years we assume more demure and staid ways. It is the last of human activities that we resign to sickness or age. It might almost be said to be the measure of the period of human usefulness.

The walker should wear low heeled shoes and light loose clothing. Preferably he should walk on a yielding surface. One can walk on a country road or foot path much farther without weariness than he can on concrete.

Courtesy, American Forests



There are three conditions that are essential to a satisfactory walk. First, the places we wish to see should not be very far apart. Walking permits us to stop at any moment to examine anything of interest, but we do not wish to walk for a long period where there is nothing to see.

A second condition is a comfortable and safe path. Some five states have passed laws during the last year authorizing the making of pedestrian paths. These will help in some sections, but few of us would care to walk for long distances through a level agricultural country, even if there were a fine footpath on each side of the road. Six hundred miles of footpaths have been laid out through the Adirondacks and the Catskills in New York during the past year and many leantos have been erected along these trails where the wayfarers may spend the night. The Adirondack Trail from Mount Kahtadin in Maine to Mount Oglethorpe in Georgia, 2,100 miles, is now practically complete with markers along the

way and arrows pointing to fine views, springs or other objects of interest, with many leantos through New England and Virginia.

The other condition of a pleasant and worth while walk is congenial company. Here we are at a great disadvantage as compared with Europe, because as a people we have never developed a habit of walking. It would be hard in most places to get together a group of a dozen or more who would care to go out for a walk of two or three weeks. The autoists make walking difficult for two reasons. They either insist on running over you or believe that you of course wish to ride if you have a chance.

THE GERMAN WALKING TRIP

The organized walking trip in Germany is of ancient lineage; as Jahn, the father of modern gymnastics, more than a century ago used to take his classes out on trips that often lasted for several weeks. But after all, the greatest of all precedents in the comradeship of the open road is in the wanderings of Jesus and his disciples over the hills of Palestine.

The Youth Movement in Germany embraces youth between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five. For the most part they are just out of school and unmarried. It is made up of girls and boys without distinction of sex. In a much class ridden country, it disregards class. It represents the churches, industries and athletic associations. If one were to seek its most distinctive characteristics, it lies in its good fellowship and in the bringing together into a romantic vagabondage, usually of two or three weeks duration, of groups of boys and girls of all classes and creeds.

It stands for the simple life in clothing and food. It abjures alcohol and tobacco. It takes to strenuous trails, and it sings as it goes. Its devotees are to be seen in small or large companies all over Europe, carrying knapsacks and often musical instruments. Laughing, chattering, singing, they wend their way through the forests and over the mountain trails.

While it is in nearly every country of Europe, it has found a particularly favorable soil in Germany. With only 650,000 automobiles to our 26,000,000, her highways are relatively safe, and there are many pedestrian trails with stone benches, where the weary may rest. The country is small and places of interest are near

together. A thousand years of history lie behind nearly every little village; which has given time for the accumulation of tradition, and for the birth of great men. Nearly every locality has its own distinctive customs, costumes and often some special craft that has come down through the centuries.

These German trips are carefully planned. The walkers know where they are going and what they are to see before they start. They are not entirely hiking trips. If there is a broad area with which they are familiar or which offers little appeal, they take the train. The government owns the railroads, and offers third and often fourth class rates. As walking parties get half fare, this makes it very cheap.

THE OVERNIGHT CAMP OR HOSTEL

Before the war the wandering youth of Germany used often to sleep in the haymows, on the floors of the inns or even in the school houses. Since the war, there has been a rapid development of a special sort of hostel for youth. A German report of 1926 gives the number of these as 2,300. It seems likely that there may be 2,500 at present.

These hostels are a unique institution. Some of them were formerly barracks of the soldiers, some were villas of the rich, many were former inns. In some cases they were unused factories that have been remodeled; but most have been specially built.

They are easily recognized, as each of them has over the main entrance a triangle much the same as our Y. M. and Y. W. C. A.'s except that it is the other side up. On this triangle are three letters, J. D. H. They stand for Deutscher Jugend Herberge. There is a "house father" in charge and in the larger ones a "house mother" as well.

Some of these hostels are very large, accommodating well over a thousand; others are quite small, holding only forty or fifty. All of them offer an opportunity for cooking, since the walkers usually carry part of their food. All of the larger ones have cafeterias and give regular meals at ten to twenty cents. The regular price for a lodging until recently has been five cents. Lately several travelers have spoken of the price as twenty-five cents.

All the larger hostels have social rooms, li-

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The Summer Camp Library

By

ROBERT SNADDON

Director, Camp Osoha for Girls

Wisconsin

THE library at many private and public summer camps for boys and girls is often neglected by the camp directors and therefore by the campers themselves. Summer time, they say, is for active adventures rather than a time for reading about them. So much of the camper's time is occupied with physical activities, they contend, that he has little time for reading.

A few worn out unattractive looking volumes constitute what passes for the library in some camps. Not much time is spent or much thought given to the purposes of such a library and what it can help to accomplish in an educational way in camp.

Yet in spite of the usual objections offered against reading in camps, a well equipped library is a distinct asset to any camp.

If the summer camp is to be recognized as an educational institution along with the school, its equipment and instructional personnel must compare favorably with the school. Poor equipment resulting in poor instruction will not long be tolerated by parents.

The camp library may help in many ways to carry out some of the educational aims of the camp. Some of its purposes are:

1. To provide reference books on all the camp activities, which generally include swimming, diving, boating, canoeing, arts and crafts, games, overnight camping trips, nature lore, and camp craft. In some camps they include horseback riding, interpretative dancing, gardening, and other specialized activities.

2. To supply interesting and constructive reading for relaxation periods and for use on rainy days.

3. To furnish books of games and stunts for stunt nights at camp.

4. To offer books of inspiration and information to counselors.

5. To help counselors to interpret the whole organized camping movement.

Purposive reading has a definite place in the camp program. When boys and girls discover a porcupine up in the top of a tree, their curiosity is aroused to find out more about the habits of the animal; when they see young poplars that have been cut off by beavers, they want to find out more about the ingenious ways of beavers. They see new flowers, new trees, new birds. Sympathetic and enthusiastic counselors can lead campers to increase their knowledge of the life of the woods not only through observation, but also through reading. The curiosity of the campers often leads them to good books to find the answers to their questions.

Hundreds of questions come up in camps each season to be answered. The skillful leader encourages the campers to find the answers themselves. Actual reading in such instances is on an entirely different plane than that of the required reading in school. The camper is definitely interested in solving a problem and is oftentimes keenly disappointed if he cannot solve it. But what if the proper books are not at hand for the camper? Most camps are situated at a considerable distance from any towns with libraries and even if there was a town library near the camp the camper would not have a chance to go there. If boys and girls cannot readily find what they want, they let the matter slip and thus is wasted an educational opportunity. In building up a camp library, then, a large section of it should contain the best illustrated books easily understood on all phases of the camp program.

In the second place, the library should contain a wide variety of well chosen books for boys and girls to read during their spare time. Rainy days in camp are perhaps the most dif-

ficult. While many of the regular activities are carried on just the same, yet there is an extra amount of time which the campers have for themselves. A long spell of rainy weather taxes the ingenuity of counselors and directors to keep the campers well satisfied and occupied at something worth while. Idleness leads to boredom and trouble. There must be considerable of a variety both as to content and to the style in which the book is written to appeal to different age groups.

Many camps have a junior group ranging in age from seven to thirteen years and a senior group from fourteen to eighteen years and junior counselors and counselors from that age up. Naturally a camp library which lacks in material which will appeal to any one group is not well equipped.

It is the aim of most camps to keep campers out-of-doors just as much as possible. Stories that are adapted for telling around the fire add romance to camp fires. Action, adventure and ghost stories that are easy to follow appeal to campers most strongly after a strenuous day of exercising. Books which contain such stories should be accessible to counselors so that they may become thoroughly familiar with them before they attempt to retell them to campers. Some camps follow the practice of having a continued story read for a little while each evening around the fire just before time for the bugle to get ready to go to bed. Those who are interested may sit around the fire or lie down on a blanket in front of it and listen to the story as it is read by one of the counselors.

Since telling the story by the camper rather than listening to it is more important, some camp directors are attempting to revive the ancient art of story telling. Every opportunity is given to the campers to tell stories that have appealed to them. In camps where this practice has been followed, campers often search during the winter time for good stories which will liven the camp fire the following summer. Much practice is necessary to develop good story tellers. There are some classic masterpieces which the campers want to hear summer after summer. They do not tire of the best stories. Only stories of that type should be told.

In the third place, the well equipped camp library should contain an abundance of reference material to help counselors and campers

plan stunts and special entertainments. Books of this type are constantly in demand. Stunt nights are usually worked out at camp so that every camper takes some part. Since there are always a number of campers who are not original and therefore are at a loss for something to do, they must look to their counselors and to books for help. Some camps have at least one stunt night each week besides the informal get-togethers around the friendship fires in the evening at camp or off on special trips where individual or group stunts help to add to the fun of the occasion.

Fourthly, counselors look to the camp library for inspirational books which will help them to deal more effectively with the children under their care. Practical books on child psychology help.

Lastly, there should be books which tell of the objectives of the organized summer camping movement and its place in American education. There have been very few books published which give this interpretation. Such books often tell of experiments in other camps in other sections of the country which are helpful.

If we grant that a camp library is absolutely essential, we still face the question of what is the best way to build up an adequate library. Since many of the reference books and others that are necessary are expensive, and since in many cases the funds are not supplied from the library, other ways must be found to get the books.

We have built up our own library at Camp Osoha during the past fifteen years in three ways: first, we have bought each year some of the best books on camping and other subjects to add to the library; secondly, we have suggested to the girls in our camp that they contribute to the camp library two or more books which have interested them; and thirdly, we have had sent to us each year a hundred or more books carefully chosen from the large collection of the Wisconsin Traveling Library at Madison. This last arrangement is an excellent way for a camp to have the use for the entire camping period of some splendid books. The books are always in good condition. If each camp director would make out a list of the subjects on which he would like material, the librarians can make a better choice. It is

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The Counselor Dilemma

Says the camp director, confidentially, "I cannot point to as much in the way of educational accomplishment for our campers as I would like. They did not make the progress that could reasonably be expected in mastering canoeing, riding, campcraft, nature familiarity, and so forth."

Year in and year out, a camp's educational accomplishment is in direct proportion to the skill and teaching ability of its counselors. Within the capacity of the counselor in charge, the average camp does produce results in any given activity. The difficulty rests in the disappointingly inadequate training of many camp counselors in educational objectives and progressive methods.

Herein rests the dilemma confronting every camp director. To select mature teachers with much experience often results in filling the camp with counselors whom the campers term as "old," who carry little glamour, and who are ineffective as cabin counselors. To select young and attractive leaders, excellent as cabin counselors, often leads to failure in educational accomplishment. There is a happy medium, however, and so much of success depends upon it that it is well worth the long search to find and the expenditure to obtain. There is no dodging the need for efficient and progressive

teaching in camp, and if the right combination of youth and experience cannot be obtained in individuals, then there must be a careful balance between young, popular cabin counselors, and experienced older men skilled in instructing in activities. Inability to solve this problem successfully has been the cause of most of the failure in camp education.

To date, the movement as a whole has been open to criticism because of an overabundance of the young and immature (and inexpensive), and a lack of experienced leaders trained in modern educational philosophy and methods.

It is an unquestionable fact that, viewed in the large, camp counselors are scarcely comparable to school teachers in training for their tasks, in experience, and educational background. Before camping can adequately fill the role assigned to it in the American educational scheme for tomorrow, the quality of leadership must be raised markedly. State governmental regulations will soon attempt to force the issue here, but this will not solve the problem. All that such regulation can accomplish is to set minimum standards for counselors and these of necessity cannot be high—any self-respecting camp today probably already meets the minimum standards that will be set by the state regulations.

The standard of counselors can be raised only by action from within the movement. The quality of school teachers is what it is today not because of legislative regulations and standards, but because school superintendents, head masters, and state directors of education sought of themselves to produce an adequate teaching machinery.

If the camping movement is alert, it will strive strenuously and at once to raise the quality of its counselors in respect to teaching ability, specialized skill, and general educational background. The educational world is freely stating that neither camp administrators, taken as a whole, nor the rank and file of camp counselors, are well enough trained in educational techniques to give the movement standing. This, if true, is most unfortunate. With the stage set as it is for the general acceptance of the camping movement as a vitally essential educational institution, immediate action to remedy this situation is of paramount importance.

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ON THE TRAIL OF NEW BOOKS

Firelight Entertainments

By Margaret K. Soifer (Brooklyn: The Furrow Press, 1935) 63 pages, paper, 80c.

Within this little manual is an abundance of fresh and imaginative material for evenings out of doors. These programs are ideally adapted for use in camp, being based as they are upon picturesque and romantic types of outdoors people—there is the cowboy program, the gypsy, the Indian, the hobo, the lumberjack, the pioneer, the pirate, etc. The book is designed merely to act as a key to the rich treasures of evening program material—it points the way and leaves ample room for the play of the imagination on the part of the dramatics counselor and the camper-actors. It is not one of those books that presents every minute detail and calls for endless learning of lines and rehearsing—"rehearsing for the show" has ruined many a camp season. Based upon progressive methods, it allows for the free handling of the dramatic situation and gives the campers much latitude in conversation and dialogue. The bibliographies of stories and songs listed in connection with each program provide sources of information and inspiration for the creation of programs that are unique and original.

—B.S.M.

Tin-Can-Craft

By Edwin T. Hamilton (New York: Dodd, Mead and Company, 1935) 508 pages, \$3.50.

Here is a book of first moment to camps, clubs, playgrounds, schools, and all who engage in metalcraft. It transforms the lowly, ever-present, and valueless tin can into art objects of outstanding beauty and merit. Many camps and recreational groups have been forced to neglect metalcraft because of the expense of silver, gold, copper, brass, and pewter. This book substitutes for these more-or-less expensive metals the tin plate cut from a discarded tin can and with it accomplishes practically every operation and project that can be achieved with the finer metals.

No metal is more easily and cheaply obtained than tin plate—it is as near as the nearest ash can or dump. No longer need the element of expense stand in the way of metalcraft in any organization.

But even when finer metals are available, there are excellent reasons for the use of tin. The novice applies the saw to silver and copper with much reluctance and many misgivings, knowing full well that a slip of his inexperienced hand will ruin the piece. In working with tin, he has confidence born of the knowledge that another piece is available for

the cutting. Tin is excellent material for the instruction of beginners in the elements of metalcraft.

Lowly as the metal is, it should not be assumed that the projects are in any respect crude and unattractive—they are on every bit as artistic a plane as those made of finer metals. Nor are they necessarily made of thin tin—the heavy objects are fashioned by soldering together several layers.

Since the projects are identical with those made of fine metals, it may seem that the craft instructor would not need detailed instructions in the processes. However, the methods used are often very different and have been developed as a result of two years of experimentation by the author.

This is a big, attractive book, written and illustrated in the typical Hamilton style. It contains descriptions of the tools needed, and the processes of decorating, embossing, engraving, enameling, and stone-setting. A second section shows by a series of full-page photographs each operation from the tin can to the finished project. Then follows complete instructions for hundreds of art objects, such as desk sets, book-ends, bracelets, belt buckles, cuff links, plates, bowls, candlesticks, etc.—B.S.M.

Death in the Desert

By Paul I. Wellman (Macmillan Company, 1935) 294 pages, \$3.00.

Condemnation in huge volume has been heaped upon the broad shoulders of the war-like Apaches because of their relentless attacks upon the whites throughout the desert wars of the great southwest. More vividly and painstakingly than most books on the subject does *Death in the Desert* set forth this whole unnecessary episode in its true light.

Paul Wellman has given us an unusually readable, accurate, and unbiased account of the reasons underlying those fifty years of struggle. We see the abuse heaped upon the Indians, the unspeakable degradation into which they were forced, and the provocation given for their devastating attacks of retribution. On the other hand, we see the courageous conduct of many capable although often misinformed and poorly advised army officers and agents.

As one goes through these thrilling pages, there is spread before him the panoramic picture of the ascendancy and final downfall of such great red statesmen and generals as Mangus Colorado, Cochise, Victorio, old Nana, and Geromino. And curiously enough, when the facts are all on the table, one finds his sympathies going to the homeless Apaches, hunted down like wolves, tricked and

massacred under flags of truce, accepting in good faith the agreements made by the white officers only to be convinced in the end that no white man is as good as his word.

Boys and girls have heard so much of myth regarding the Indian that they should hear the stories in this book. The volume is better suited for adults and those of later adolescence than it is for children, but there is material here for excellent talks and stories by counselors, club leaders, and teachers.

In Mr. Wellman's first book of a year or two ago, *Death on the Prairie*, he tells the gripping history of the Plains Indians' fight for glory. The present volume lacks the glamour of the other because it tells of a different kind of people. "The Plains Indian fought for glory; the Apaches fought for keeps."

The stories in both books should be passed on to children—to picture the true Indian, *Death in the Desert* should be used in connection with *Death on the Prairie*. Both are Macmillan books.—B.S.M.

Games and Stunts for All Occasions

By William P. Young and Horace J. Gardner
(Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1935)
118 pages, \$1.00.

This little book of amusing pastimes for children and adults breathes the spirit of social recreation. Not large in size, yet it contains every essential for happy parties, whether in the home, the club, or camp. No encyclopedic collection, one is not forced to find his way through a maze to get at the sure-fire hit he is seeking—the authors have done the searching for us, and have sifted out the precious kernels of mirth and joy that will lift the party above the boredom of sameness and triteness. Not that the old favorites are neglected, for no games book would be adequate minus these, but they are augmented with new slants and supplemented by up-to-the-minute novelties and innovations. The games are of the not-too-active type that are acceptable for any social setting. Decorations, too, are covered, and refreshments happily are not forgotten.

Yes, it is a good little book that will serve as an ambassador of mirth and sociability wherever it goes, and let us hope that it goes far.—B.S.M.

Manual of Recreational Activities for Young Men's Work Camps

Prepared by the National Recreation Association
(New York: National Recreation Association, 1935) 76 pages, paper, 50c.

There is a wealth of recreational material for camps crowded between the covers of this little manual. Although prepared for CCC and similar

types of camps for young men, it is right down on the street of boys' camp counselors. There are the more popular of the physical contests and athletic games, tournament methods, water activities, social recreation events, and guides to dramatic and musical activities. The activities are selected with the thought that in camp the equipment and supplies are often limited.

The manual is of course far from a complete presentation of outdoor recreational material, but its offerings are all pertinent and carefully selected for the camp situation. It is well worth the few pennies that it costs.—B.S.M.

Friends—Factors Involved in Friendship Making Among Adolescent Boys

By A. J. Pellettieri (Nashville, Tenn.: Informal Educational Service, 1935) 102 pages, paper.

This scientific study deals with the problem of friendship formation and retention among adolescent boys, with the isolation of factors operating in boy friendships, and with the factors which contribute to the origin and disruption of friendships. The effects of such factors as the following are presented: age, proximity, weight and height, interparental friendship, school attended, club membership, economic status. It is a careful and scholarly statistical study and interpretation, and is a valuable contribution to the literature on adolescence.

Primary Industrial Arts Series

Book 1. Paper Work in Primary Grades.

Book 2. Booklets and Paper Construction.

Book 3. Basketry and Weaving.

Book 4. Clay Modeling and Pottery.

By Della F. Wilson (Peoria, Illinois: The Manual Arts Press, 1935). Each book: 40 pages, paper, 50c.

Each book in this series contains clear descriptions and illustrations of art projects suitable for young children of the age level of the primary grades. The series portrays an understanding of children of these ages, their interests, needs, and capacities; and it describes not only how suitable projects are made but also the teaching process that should be used. These books will be useful for teachers and leaders of young children.

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Seen and Heard **ALONG CAMPING'S FAR FLUNG TRAIL**

Private Camp Directors Organize in Wisconsin

The directors of private camps in Wisconsin have recently organized into a new association bearing the name of The Wisconsin Association of Private Camps. Mr. Robert Snaddon of Camp Osoha is president, Dr. B. C. Ehrenreich vice-president, and Mrs. Leslie W. Lyon, secretary-treasurer.

Iowa Section Holds Autumn Meeting

Miss Marjorie Camp, President of the Iowa Section of the American Camping Association, presided at the annual fall meeting held on October 26th at the Union Building of Iowa University. In addition to the large number of sincerely interested camp directors, the attendance was augmented by about twenty students specializing in fields related to camping.

The luncheon meeting was featured by a brief report from each director on the most interesting event of the past summer's camping experience. Prof. Hinman of the State University of Iowa opened the afternoon meeting with an illustrated lecture on Health and Safety in Camps, following which Mr. Fordyce conducted a discussion. The session was concluded by colored moving pictures taken at the Joy Camps, presented by Miss Camp, to illustrate her discussion of Camp Program Planning. Miss Burr led the discussion on Miss Camp's lecture.

Great Lakes Inter-Camp Council Meets

The fall meeting of the Great Lakes Inter-Camp Council was held at the Central Y. W. C. A., Detroit, on the afternoon and evening of December 7th. About sixty interested camp directors and counselors were present.

The afternoon meeting was addressed by Colonel Rich, of the State Board of Health, who asked for the cooperation of the Council in getting an appropriation for carrying on the inspection of the camps. After the business

meeting, during which the president, Mr. Lewis Reimann, appointed publicity, membership, legislative, and exhibits committees; Mr. Louis Sobel, head of the Detroit Jewish Community Center spoke on "What the Parent Expects of the Camp."

Following dinner and reports of committees, Dr. Wilfred S. Nolting, of the Ford Hospital staff and camp doctor at Camp Nissokone, spoke on Health at Camp.

Wisconsin Studies Camp Legislation

Miss Barbara Ellen Joy has been appointed chairman of a committee of the Wisconsin Association of Private Camps to make a survey of legislative control of camps in the United States. An exhaustive study is planned covering all angles of state control of camps, giving particular emphasis to health, taxation, and personnel.

Michigan Camping Commission

A meeting has been called for January 9 in Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of definitely formulating the working program of the Michigan State Camping Commission. Plans for a complete survey of boys' and girls' camps in the State of Michigan, with the ultimate objective of setting standards of health and education which these camps will be required to meet will be the major issue of the meeting. The Commission is composed of three members of the Great Lakes Section of the American Camping Association, Inc., one representative of the State Department of Health, one from the State Department of Education, and one from the University of Michigan. The Recreational Division of the WPA in the State of Michigan has offered assistance in making the preliminary survey of the camps of the state. A report of the meeting of January 9 will be found in the February CAMPING MAGAZINE.

An International Experiment

(Continued from Page 4)

the Experiment because of their lack of perfect familiarity with the language of the country to which our groups go. Even more difficult to obtain is perfect familiarity with the manners and customs of those countries. The leader who is not qualified to interpret to Americans the differences between the habits and customs of a given European culture and to point out in advance to them mistakes which are to be avoided would not be a competent leader for an Experiment. In addition to these qualifications, our ideal leader must enjoy twenty-four-hour-a-day contact with young people. He must consider, not as a hardship but as an intriguing adventure, our very simple type of camping. Compared with it, a large proportion of American camps are so luxurious that their life cannot properly be called camping at all.

One of the many by-products of learning about a European culture through experiencing it, rather than through reading or hearing about it, is the knowledge that the simple fun which the European provides for himself with little or no money can be made just as amusing as

the more extravagant fun with which young America is likely to entertain itself. Another worthwhile by-product of the summer is the opportunity for language learning. While there are few who at the end of the summer feel they could not have taken greater advantage of their opportunities in this direction and believe they have learned relatively little, when they return to school they find that they have made very real progress. What is perhaps very much more important than the amount of language learned is the feeling of its reality, changing its study from a deadly bore to a vital interest.

As one reads of the studious care, the deadly seriousness with which the leaders of the Experiment have attacked their problems, it would be only natural to gain the impression that the Experiment, although educationally fruitful, must be far too serious a matter to be called fun. It will be rather surprising, therefore, to those who have never participated, to know that of the many letters of appreciation which are sent to the Director at the end of each year, there is seldom one which does not express the idea: "I have never had so much fun in my life!"

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The History of Organized Camping

(Continued from Page 15)

Pennsylvania, is a memorial tablet erected in his memory by his friends. The inscription on the tablet reads as follows:

The Father of Forestry in Pennsylvania

Joseph Trimble Rothrock, 1839-1922

Patriot, Soldier, Pioneer, Forester, Botanist, Sportsman, Physician, Educator, Author, Public Servant, Distinguished Citizen and Loving Husband and Father, Leader in the Conservation of Our Forests and Streams.

THE FIRST CHURCH CAMP—1880

Rev. George W. Hinckley in 1880, when pastor of a church in West Hartford, Connecticut, conceived the idea of taking the boys of his parish on a camping trip. He established his camp on Gardner's Island, Wakefield, Rhode Island. In his party were seven boys including three Chinese high school boys who were being educated in America.⁵

In a letter received from Mr. Hinckley on February 12, 1934, he recalls the following incident in connection with the 1880 camp which is worth recording:

"At this distant day I cannot recall much about that camp except two or three incidents which I used to offer in addresses to illustrate some point. Frank Fenn was a fatherless, motherless boy whom I was befriending in the parsonage—giving home and school privileges. A few days before we were to leave West Hartford for Wakefield, he told me that he heard that I was going to take three Chinese boys with the party and he wanted to know if it were true. When I replied that it was so, he exclaimed, "That is all I want to know. If I can't camp out without taking along a lot of heathen Chinese, I don't want to go."

"I explained to him that he need not go but I was going, and if no one else went, I would take the three Chinese boys anyway. Frank changed his mind in a day or two and went with us.

"One of the first days in camp we were sitting at the long table under the trees, when a boy from one of my "best families" said to one of the Chinese students: "Woo, chuck me a biscuit will you," to which Woo replied, "I will *pass* you a biscuit; we needn't act like heathen even if we are in the woods," and the "heathen Chinese" to whom Frank Fenn had objected had formulated an under-lying principle of camp life.

Mr. Hinckley later founded the Good Will

Farm for boys which has become a famous institution located at Hinckley, Maine, and where the Good Will Camp was held for many years. It took the form of an Assembly with a daily program consisting of "sane and sensible" religious periods; an educational program; swimming, baseball, tennis in the afternoon, and sings, talks and entertainments in the evening.

"Adirondack" Murray (Rev. W. H. H. Murray) was Mr. Hinckley's great example of physical manhood and so great was his admiration for this man, that he erected on one of the trails in the Good Will Woods, a massive structure of stone work bearing three tablets in his honor. The tablets read as follows:

To Adirondack Murray

"Rev. W. H. H. Murray is buried on the Murray Homestead in Guilford, Conn., where he was born April 26, 1840. He died March 3, 1904. A splendid type of physical manhood, magnetic personality, preacher, writer, unique character. He was the father of the modern outdoor movement, and by his writings inspired multitudes with love of mountains and lake, camp and bivouac, woods and trails. This is erected by G. W. Hinckley in recognition of a great service to humanity 1920."

The second inscription is taken from the preface of one of Murray's books and reads:

"To all that camp on shores of lakes, on breezy points, on banks of rivers, by shady beaches, on slopes of mountains, and under green trees anywhere, I, an old camper, a wood lover, an aboriginal veneered with civilization, send greeting. I thank God for the multitude of you; for the strength and the beauty of you; for the healthfulness of your tastes and the naturalness of your natures. I eat and drink with you; I hunt and fish with you; I boat and bathe with you; and with you day and night enjoy the gifts of the good world."

The inscription on the third tablets reads as follows:

"The End of the Trail."

Mr. Hinckley writes that it was the custom to go to this monument once a year, usually on the last evening of May and hold a brief ceremony. Just at dusk we would sing America; then we would repeat the Lord's Prayer; then there would be a short address and the singing of Good Will's "Trail Song." After the singing was ended, fagot of birch was lighted, and laid on a part of the stonework, and this was called "lighting the symbolic camp-fire."

Frederick William Gunn, Dr. Joseph Trimble

⁵ Porter Sargent, *Handbook of Summer Camps*. 1929, p. 19.

Rothrock, Rev. George W. Hinckley—educator, physician, clergyman—recognized the need of bettering boy life, through rational, healthful living out of doors. By this simple life, rugged virtues which were characteristic of the early pioneers, could be practiced, and without precedents to follow, conferences to inspire, or organizations to promote, they proceeded to make real their ideal. These three men made a contribution to the organized camping movement of greater significance than is recognized at the present.

Unselfish motives, sympathetic understanding, tactful leadership, and sound principles of work, play and study, were applied in the administration of their camps and many of the boys who camped with these leaders of contagious personalities, became men of influence and importance in the business and professional life.

(To be continued)

The Summer Camp Library

(Continued from Page 19)

an easy and very satisfactory way of supplementing any books that may be in the camp. The only expense is the freight charged on the boxes of books sent. [Further information and lists of available books may be obtained by writing the Wisconsin Traveling Library Commission, Madison, Wisconsin.*]

Methods of handling books in camp vary. It has been our experience that it is best to put one of the counselors or older campers in charge of the library. While books may be read at any time in the living or assembly room—or wherever they are kept—they cannot be taken out of this room without the permission of the counselor librarian. Because of the urgent demand for many of the books, they may be drawn for only a few days at a time.

Books may be drawn from the library at a certain period just before lunch. None of the camp books can be taken on any of the camping trips. There is not only the question of the extra weight added to the pack but also the danger of losing the book or getting it soaked in an unexpected rain storm. Because of this

last rule, we have always been able to return the books loaned in good condition.

We have found it advisable to have a separate group of books for counselors only. In this list might be included special stories for telling around the fire. If campers do not have a chance to read these stories first, it is more fascinating for them to listen to them being told.

In addition to an adequate supply of books there should also be a number of the best magazines chosen to suit the needs of the various camp groups. An excellent method of arousing interest in the magazines is to have the campers vote on the ones they would like in the camp. A check on their choices may be made by submitting the list to parents for their choice or approval. Campers may be encouraged to have their own magazines sent to camp during the season.

Let us—as camp directors—do all we can to raise and keep up the standard of the libraries in our organized summer camps.

“He who loveth a book will never want a faithful friend, a wholesome counselor, a cheerful companion, or an effectual comforter.”



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New York City

Uncle Sam's New Camping Grounds

(Continued from Page 12)

CCC has provided; a growing tendency toward the overlooking of state boundaries in the interest of regional planning for proper use of land and resources; and a healthy appreciation on the part of people, press, pulpit and politicians of the basic values of conservation and recreation.

The National Park Service is not confining its CCC activities to the development of state and local parks. Besides the work in the national parks, it is also cooperating with Dr. Tugwell's Resettlement Administration in the development of what are known to planners as recreational demonstration projects. These areas—45 of them in 24 states—are directed at the health and happiness of the underprivileged populations in the country's larger cities, particularly the manufacturing centers, through organized camping. They range from a 21-acre highway “wayside” in Virginia to a 67,333-acre tract in North Dakota and comprise 433,352 acres, purchased with Federal funds for \$4,807,872—an average of a few cents more than \$11 an acre.

Their locations are such that they are within a half-day round-trip of 30 million people who need this sort of organized outdoor recreation more than any in the country. In these areas those whose business it is to direct group camping will find answers to the age-old questions: Where'll we go? What'll we do? They will be quickly accessible to those who need them most and the facilities will be especially arranged to care for the requirements of the group camp from the city.

According to the size of the areas—the majority are a few thousand acres—they will be divided into organized camps, each of which will serve a maximum of 150 people. Then each camp will be broken up into units, each accommodating not more than 30 people. These units will have housing facilities ranging from tents to substantial cabins according to the climate; separate quarters for counselors, a central lodge or recreation building, central kitchen and dining room and a big fireplace for social gatherings.

The units will operate individually under trained counselors; meals will be served in

the central dining room; groups, such as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, mothers and tots, boys and girls, men and women, will use separate units. These camps, though used spasmodically at present by disorganized groups, are not formally open. It is expected at least one organized camp on each area will be ready for business July 1, 1936. Until then their development continues under supervision of the National Park Service's Assistant Director Conrad L. Wirth, who also directs the state and local park activities, and Supervisor M. C. Huppuch, of the Service's Recreational Demonstration Projects Division.

Outstanding among the nation's state parks are: Cuyamaca Rancho, a vast place of much beauty 50 miles inland from San Diego in Southern California; Deception Pass in Washington's Puget Sound country; South Dakota's famous Custer State Park; Palo Duro Canyon near Amarillo in Texas' Panhandle and that same state's weird and silent Big Bend, headed for national park status; Itasca in Northern Minnesota where Henry Schoolcraft found the source of the Mississippi; Richard Lieber's precious Turkey Run in Indiana; almost any of those in New York's several systems; Mount Mitchell in North Carolina's purple high country and many another from sea to sea and border to border.

County park systems of importance are Essex and Union county in New Jersey; Westchester in New York; Los Angeles in California and the Milwaukee county system back from the shores of Lake Michigan in Wisconsin.

The major metropolitan park systems are represented by Boston and Cleveland and the smaller ones by Akron and Tacoma.

Notable among the Park Service's recreational demonstration projects for the cities' underprivileged are Oak Mountain (11,000 acres) serving the manufacturing city of Birmingham and surrounding communities; Versailles (8,000 acres) near Cincinnati; Catoctin (10,333 acres) serving Washington and Baltimore; Waterloo project (13,000 acres) near Lansing and Detroit; Lake of the Ozarks (16,500 acres) for Jefferson City and Springfield, Missouri and Guivre River (5,850 acres) near St. Louis; Roosevelt project (67,333 acres) in Western North Dakota; French Creek (7,000

acres) serving Reading and Philadelphia; King's Mountain (10,225 acres) between Charlotte and Gastonia, North Carolina and Spartanburg, South Carolina; Shelby Forest (10,000 acres) near Memphis; and Chopowamsic (15,000 acres) on the Washington-Richmond highway in Virginia.

In all these places may be found evidence of a deliberate, highly-organized, carefully-planned effort to provide America's outdoor population with publicly-owned recreational facilities of such extent even the most farsighted of a few years ago would have said it could never be done.

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A Vacation in Camp

(Continued from Page 10)

or just bed-rolls under the stars, the atmosphere is informal, friendly. There is a sense of peace and serenity mingled with an atmosphere, and a drive to the many activities that the environment furnishes. Skilled leadership is there to help each one do the things he wants to do, and to do them better than ever before; to ride, swim, canoe, make nature trails, construct a lean-to, go on a gypsy trip, sing songs around the camp-fire at night, and there is always a sharp appetite and abundant food to satisfy it. Behind all that meets the eye, there is a tested water supply, safe sewerage disposal and insect control, easily available medical attention, provision for trip and waterfront safety.

To be sure, there are camps that are not ideal in any of these provisions. However, there are many that typify all that is best in camp organization and have features for enriching the vacation that I can not describe here. There are fine camps at every price and in sea shore, lake, and mountain locations—camps to suit every age, taste and purse. There are the vast camp areas provided by the forest service;

there are the Dude Ranches. Opportunity in the selection of a vacation in camp is not limited. However, the adult for his own vacation or for his children often selects less rewarding summer opportunities when all that camp can give is so easily available.

This camp scene that I have hastily sketched should answer my questions. A vacation in camp for the adult has everything in its environment to give rest and relief from worries by engaging the individual in new activities. It can give the warmth of fellowship, happiness in new experiences, a change, a relief from the telephone, from planning meals. One is remote from the nagging routine of life.

A vacation in camp for the child may give adventure, new skills, new appreciation, new ways of enjoying and getting on with others, a strengthening of his own personality away from family dependence, a new appreciation for home and family, deeper spiritual realization, through contact with nature, more stabilized emotional integration, increased physical efficiency.

Camp *surely* is one of the perfect situations in which to build positive leisure-time attitudes and skills. This we must accomplish for the child of this generation and the next, as well as to try to enlarge the capacities of the present-day adults.

Surely, in these days of insecurity and economic worry, we must find ways in which to have more joy in life. Let us find this joy in a vacation in camp.

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THE CAMPING MAGAZINE
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Ann Arbor, Michigan

Camping in England

(Continued from Page 6)

amounts of the black hostel tea, they wore khaki shorts, they were interested in Americans, and they thought that all of us spoke exactly alike (Chicago, Pennsylvania, and Boston!) and that our speech was abominable but our language vastly entertaining. Also they pitied us for our form of government and for the notorious corruption of our politics. What could we say? They, without exception, seemed convinced, in spite of British unemployment, of German fascism, and of Italian aggression, that England was somehow guaranteed from violence. "Nothing like that could happen here," they would say solidly. "We don't work that way." Such an attitude makes the recent Conservative majority easier to understand now.

And such attitudes of calm, of confidence that "somehow good" will survive in England, built up for us there our dominant idea of the English people—their special kind of freedom, gained, apparently, from the peace that comes from accepting limitations. Again and again we sensed this interesting combination of subservience and self-respect, of intensive growth and small compass. It made some of us question gravely what we individualistic Americans are going to do with the idea of freedom that we have and with the reality. Conversations by those hostel tables may be responsible for new voices in our legislatures ten years or so from now; at any rate I know of several college classes in government that are to be the larger for them.

Besides these chance glimpses of English people and their thought as we gypsied in July, we had in August a rare opportunity in Reading at the International Holiday Gathering of school children to live for three weeks with French, German, and English boys and girls. Here amid songs, conversation, games, tennis, plays, tea, and excursions—quite like a camping program but amusingly different—we could dig in more deeply and cultivate friendliness in a wider field. Again paragraphs could go to describing the delights and the effectiveness of this gathering, which meets successfully each year in England, France, and Germany—a great and growing idea of a superb educator, Lady Sadler, who as Miss Gilpiu formed the first one in 1927. For us, the first Americans ever to be included, it was a notable experience, one of apparently increasing value. Certainly when we found on one of our last climatic days in London that about two dozen of our "friends" from the gathering were willing to come miles to our tea-party, we realized that we had at least begun to fulfil the central purpose of The Experiment: "to make friends with young people of other nationalities."

Leaving London, whose streets and buildings we seemed always to have known as friends too, was again very like a camp experience, for if it was not with streaming eyes it was at least with aching hearts and a wholly recognizable end-of-August melancholy. Once on the steamer of course there was the typical revival of spirits. Reminiscences began to minister comfort. What fun it had been! How much to tell

the family! Home began to be even alluring. Then New York and hurried goodbyes at the dock. And now there are letters and photographs and reunions; and as at the end of every camp season there also is the question as to how much more. Certainly there seems reason to believe that the Experimenters have brought back not just memories to cherish but some friendships and some yeasty ideas to grow on.

Views Afloat

(Continued from Page 17)

barities and assembly halls. There is always much singing and discussion during the evening by the different groups. Frequently one of the groups will give a play that they have been practicing during the year in the home town.

These hostels are supported in five different ways. There is a national Hostels Association with branches throughout Germany, with a membership charge of one mark. The membership card with the youth's picture serves as passport and admission to the hostels. Three million, six hundred thousand of these cards

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were issued in 1932. There is also a membership for schools which provides maps and a directory of points of interest for about one dollar. Many of the provinces also assess all inhabitants one cent toward their support. There have been many gifts from wealthy people, both of hostels and of funds for their maintenance, and there are the fees paid by the youths themselves.

It is said that there are 6,000 in Europe. In Austria, Scandinavia, and Switzerland, the movement is of long standing; but in the British Isles it was organized in 1930 through a grant from the Carnegie Foundation. It is reported that there are now 200 hostels in England and 40 in Scotland. It is not there, however, so exclusively a youth movement as it is on the continent.

The American Hostels Association was organized this year by Monroe Smith of Northfield, Massachusetts, where the first hostel is situated. One of the dormitories of Mt. Holyoke was being used for a hostel this past summer. There are now 36 in operation. The American movement is affiliated with the European association. The uniform charge for lodging is twenty-five cents. There are 3,200 counties in the United States. If we had the same proportionate number of hostels that Germany has, we might have one in every well populated county.

Walking is the ideal way to travel and about the only way to become intimately acquainted with a region. One may drive to an area, but it is only by walking that one may really study the birds and trees and flowers, enjoy a landscape or become familiar with its industries and customs. The European walking trip with its intimate social life is delightful in many ways; but unfortunately it is too slow for the American temperament. Walking may be promoted in our mountain areas, but it can scarcely be expected to have the general popularity which it has in Europe.

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